

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 32-34, 38-44, 47-55, 59-61, 66 and 86-88, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please AMEND the claims as indicated below:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:
dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles containing business rules, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and
providing an executable on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the executable being shared by the plurality of users to implement user requested transactions of the plurality of users, the executable implementing a respective user requested transaction by a respective user with an application system by accessing the organizational profile associated with the respective user and implementing the business rules contained in the accessed organizational profile
~~and~~
~~implementing a user requested transaction on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system with an application system by using the business rules stored in an organizational profile associated with the user.~~
2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in a sequence.
3. (CANCELED)
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the application system is a financial system.
5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the business rules store information on integration preferences determining how the shared executable hosted e-procurement system interacts with the application system for a specific user or organizational profile.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:
dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles containing data definitions, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and
providing an executable on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the executable being shared by the plurality of users to implement user requested transactions of the plurality of users, the executable implementing a respective user requested transaction of a

respective user with an application system by accessing the organizational profile associated with the respective user and implementing the data definitions contained in the accessed organizational profile

~~—implementing a user requested transaction on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system with an application system by using a data definition stored in an organizational profile associated with the user.~~

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the used data definition comprises user defined field values.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the implementing the respective user requested transaction includes executing a particular routine for the used data definition and uses the user defined field values.

9. (CANCELED)

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:
dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles associated with users so that different organizational profiles are associated with different users, each profile including business rules that include characteristics and approvers for those characteristics;
providing an executable on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the executable being shared by the users to automatically seek approval for purchase requests of the users from the approvers for the characteristics of the profiles;
receiving, by a the executable on the shared executable hosted e-procurement system, from a respective user a purchase request associated with purchase characteristics that match the characteristics of the profile associated with the user; and
automatically seeking approval, by the executable on the shared executable hosted e-procurement system, from the approvers for the characteristics of the profile associated with the user.

11. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the characteristics comprise product categories.

12. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the characteristics comprise dollar amount ranges.

13. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought for multiple parties in a sequence.
14. (CANCELED)
15. (CANCELED)
16. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising implementing the purchase request with a selected application system among a plurality of application systems.
17. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising modifying the business rules using an organizational profile editor which modifies the organizational profile containing the business rules.
18. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the modified business rules are used in the implementing without a need for recompiling a program which implements the business rules.
19. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein multiple organizational profiles are maintained for multiple users simultaneously.
20. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein each user is associated with one organizational profile.
21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising transmitting transaction information by the shared executable hosted e-procurement system to one of a plurality of application systems, after all seeked approvers consent to the purchase.
22. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 21, wherein the application systems are financial systems.
23. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 22, wherein financial systems comprise applications used to track and manage financial resources.
24. (ORIGINAL) A method as in claim 22, further comprising transmitting purchase information to a supplier for the purchase after the financial system indicates a financial approval

for the purchase.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:

dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles associated with users, each profile including business rules that include characteristics and approvers for those characteristics;

receiving, by a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, from a user a purchase request associated with purchase characteristics that match the characteristics of the profile associated with the user;

automatically seeking approval, by the shared executable hosted e-procurement system, from the approvers for the characteristics of the profile;

modifying the business rules using an organizational profile editor which modifies the organizational profile including the business rules; and

transmitting financial information, by the shared executable hosted e-procurement system, to one of a plurality of financial systems after all sought approvers consent to the purchase,

wherein the characteristics comprise product categories and dollar amount ranges,

wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought for multiple parties in a sequence,

wherein the method is performed by a single executable of the shared executable hosted e-procurement system for a plurality of applications systems~~using one executable, the single executable being shared by each of the users.~~

wherein the applications systems comprise financial systems;

wherein the ~~one single~~ executable comprises a single executable program running in memory on the shared executable hosted e-procurement system;

wherein the modified business rules are used in the implementing without a need for recompiling a program which implements the business rules,

wherein multiple organizational profiles are maintained for multiple users simultaneously,

wherein each user is associated with one organizational profile,

wherein the financial system comprises an application used to track and manage financial resources.

26. (CANCELED)

27. (CANCELED)

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:

storing a plurality of organizational profiles containing business rules as objects, the business rules comprising product categories and approvers for the respective categories, a plurality of users being associated with the plurality of organizational profiles; and

executing a process on one executable of a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the one executable being shared by the plurality of users, the process being executed to implement a user requested transaction of a respective user of the plurality of users by accessing the organizational profile associated with the respective user and implementing in accordance with the business rules contained in of the organizational profile to which the respective user is associated.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:

dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles containing integration preferences, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and

providing an executable on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the executable being shared by the plurality of users to implement user requested transactions of the plurality of users, the executable implementing a respective user requested transaction by a respective user with an application system by accessing the organizational profile associated with the respective user and implementing the integration preferences contained in the organizational profile

~~using a shared executable hosted system to implement a user requested transaction with an application system using the integration preferences stored in the organizational profile associated with the user, to thereby implement the user requested transaction in accordance with the integration preferences stored in the organizational profile associated with the user.~~

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method as recited in claim 29, wherein the application system is a financial system.

31. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 30, wherein a financial system is a system used to track and manage financial resources.

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62. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:

a storage device storing a plurality of dynamically maintained organizational profiles associated with users so that different organizational profiles are associated with different users, each profile including business rules that include characteristics and approvers for those characteristics; and

an executable on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the executable being shared by the users to automatically seek approval for purchase requests of the users from the approvers included in the business rules included in the profiles associated with the users for the characteristics included in the business rules included in the profiles.

whereina processor the executable automatically, upon receiving from a respective user

a purchase request associated with purchase characteristics that match the characteristics of the profile corresponding to the user, ~~automatically seeking~~seeks approval from the approvers for the characteristics of the profile ~~by executing a respective executable shared by each of the users.~~

63. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein the characteristics comprise product categories.

64. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein the characteristics comprise dollar amount ranges.

65. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein the business rules include workflow rules, which comprises multiple parties in which sequential consent is required during the implementing.

66. (CANCELED)

67. (CANCELED)

68. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein multiple organizational profiles are maintained for multiple users simultaneously.

69. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein each user is associated with one organizational profile.

70. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, further comprising a transmitting unit transmitting purchase information to one of a plurality of application systems, after all sought approvers consent to the purchase.

71. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus is in claim 70, wherein application systems are financial systems.

72. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 71, wherein financial systems comprise applications used to track and manage financial resources.

73. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:
a plurality of users, each user associated with a respective organizational profile of a

plurality of dynamically maintained organizational profiles;

a plurality of application systems which perform transactions; and

a shared executable hosted e-procurement system storing the plurality of organizational profiles, the shared executable hosted e-procurement system having an executable which is shared by the plurality of users to implement user requested transactions of the plurality of users in accordance with information contained in the organizational profiles, the executable and implementing a respective purchase request by a respective user with a selected application system by using accessing the organizational profile associated with the respective user and proceeding in accordance with the information contained in the accessed organizational profile.

74. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 73, wherein the organizational profiles contain business rules.

75. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus as recited in claim 74, wherein the business rules also include workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in a sequence.

76. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus as recited in claim 73, wherein the organizational profiles contain integration preferences determining how the shared executable hosted e-procurement system interacts with the selected application system for a specific user or organizational profile.

77. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 73, wherein the organizational profiles contain accounting codes.

78. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:

a storage unit storing a plurality of dynamically maintained organizational profiles, each organizational profile associated with any number of different users; and

an executable on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the executable being shared by the different users to implement purchase orders of the different users, the executable implementing a respective purchase order by a respective user with a selected application system by accessing the organizational profile associated with the respective user and implementing the respective purchase order in accordance with information contained in the accessed organizational profile

~~— a processing unit implementing a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the processing unit receiving a purchase request from a user and implementing the purchase~~

~~request with a selected application system of a plurality of application systems using the stored organizational profile associated with the user.~~

79. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 78, wherein the organizational profiles contain business rules.

80. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus as recited in claim 79, wherein the business rules contain workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in a sequence.

81. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus as recited in claim 78, wherein the organizational profiles contain integration preferences determining how the e-procurement system interacts with respective application systems for a specific user or organization.

82. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 78, wherein the organizational profiles contain accounting codes.

83. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:

a storage unit storing a plurality of dynamically maintained organizational profiles containing data structures, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and

an executable on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the executable being shared by the plurality of users to implement user requested transactions of the plurality of users, the executable implementing a user requested transaction by a respective user with an application system by accessing the organizational profile associated with the respective user and implementing the user requested transaction in accordance with information stored in the data structures contained in the accessed organizational profile

~~— a processing unit implementing a hosted e-procurement system, the processing unit receiving a user requested transaction and implementing the transaction with an application system by using information from the data structures stored in an organizational profile associated with the user.~~

84. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the data structures store business rules.

85. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus as recited in claim 84, wherein the

business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in sequence.

86. (CANCELED)

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88. (CANCELED)

89. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the application system is a financial system.

90. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 89, wherein a financial system is a system used to track and manage financial resources.

91. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the data structures store information on requisition preferences.

92. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the application system is selected from a plurality of application systems.